

## Message Text

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61

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-02 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 SS-20

USIA-15 PRS-01 SSC-01 /070 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:HKWALKER/MPH

APPROVED BY AF/W:JLLOUGHRAN

AF:AMBASSADOR MULCAHY

S/S - WHLUERS

NSC:MR. HORAN

S/CPR:JAGUILBAULT

----- 100570

R 202344Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS STATE 208659

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV NI US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE - NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE  
DAY

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE BY 1 OCTOBER FROM  
PRESIDENT FORD TO GENERAL GOWON: QUOTE: DEAR GENERAL GOWON:  
IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO EXTEND TO YOU PERSONALLY AND  
TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF NIGERIA MY BEST WISHES AND  
THOSE OF ALL AMERICANS ON THE FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
NIGERIA'S INDEPENDENCE. DURING THOSE FOURTEEN YEARS, THE  
RELATIONS OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE GROWN INTO A WIDE  
VARIETY OF MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TIES. EQUALLY IMPORTANT,  
WE HAVE CONTINUED TO COOPERATE IN THE PURSUIT OF SHARED  
VALUES OF HUMAN JUSTICE. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE MUTUAL  
INTERESTS AND COMMON IDEALS WHICH HAVE CHARACTERIZED THE  
RELATIONSHIP OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN THE PAST WILL BE  
STRENGTHENED EVEN MORE IN THE YEARS AHEAD. SINCERELY,  
GERALD R. FORD UNQUOTE.

2. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN RELEASE TEXT OF MESSAGE,  
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BUT HAS NO OBJECTION IF FMG WISHES TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CEREMONIAL MESSAGES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE208659  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** HKWALKER/MPH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740266-0598  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740926/aaaaavmh.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE - NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY  
**TAGS:** PDEV, NI, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (GOWON)  
**To:** LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005